



WPD News

Public Information Unit

455 N. Main • Wichita, KS 67202

Tel 316.268.4217 • Fax 316.858.7704

www.wichita.gov

Gordon Ramsay, Police Chief

For Immediate Release

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Contact: Officer Charley Davidson, WPD, (316) 541-0096

Criminal Homicide Victim Identified, 800 S. Market

The Wichita Police Department (WPD) has identified the victim in Sunday's criminal homicide investigation as 64-year-old Mark Howard of Wichita. WPD previously arrested 22-year-old Jessica Sanders of Wichita on a charge of 2nd-degree murder, regarding the case.

At approximately 12:20 p.m. on Sunday, officers responded to a larceny just occurred call at the QuikTrip in the 700 block of South Broadway, regarding Sanders, who had attempted to steal items from the business.

A WPD officer located Sanders walking in the area of Orme and Market. As he approached her in his vehicle, he observed Sanders fire a single shot into the ground from a handgun. The officer identified himself and gave her verbal instructions to stop. Sanders ignored the officer and continued to walk away from him, walking into a home in the 800 block of South Market.

As officers worked to contact Sanders inside the home, they observed Howard inside the home deceased with a gunshot wound to his upper body.

The WPD Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) team was sent to the location to assist with the investigation. After several hours, utilizing time, distance, and communication, officers had Sanders exit the home, and she was arrested without further incident.

The investigation revealed Sanders had previously shot Howard one time inside the home, causing his fatal injuries. Officers also recovered a handgun inside the house. Additionally, during the investigation, Sanders continually exhibited very erratic behavior, possibly induced by the use of illegal narcotics.

This was not a random incident. The investigation is ongoing, and the case will be presented to the Sedgwick County District Attorney's Office.

The case number is 20C023240.